

Appl. No. 10/791,070
Reply dated November 24, 2004
Reply to Office Action mailed August 24, 2004

REMARKS

The present application and its claims are directed to a device for in process data logging of a parameter during the processing of an object. In particular, the device is attached to the object so that it experiences and records the process parameters experienced by the object and then outputs those process parameter measurements at some later time. As a result of this response, Claims 76 and 92 have been amended, Claims 95-6 have been cancelled and Claims 97- 100 have been added so that Claims 76- 94 and 97- 100 are now pending.

MINOR INFORMALITIES

Applicant has made the changes noted by the Examiner.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicant requests that the Examiner consider the information disclosure statement submitted with this response.

REJECTIONS

In response to the Examiner's rejection of 76-83 under 35 USC 102(e) as being unpatentable over US Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0109951 to Hsiung et al. (hereinafter "Hsiung") and the rejection of Claims 84-91, 95 and 96 as being unpatentable over Hsiung in view of US Patent No. 6,518,574 to Castleman (hereinafter "Castleman"), Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections. In particular, Hsiung does not anticipate Claims 76 and 92 for at least the reason that these claims recite "a portable single unit that may be attached to an object." Hsiung does not disclose a portable single unit as set forth in the claims. Hsiung describes a method and system for monitoring an industrial process. Hsiung also describes (at paragraphs 81 and 82 on page 8 of the published application as noted by the Examiner) a number of different sensors or sensor arrays that detect chemical stimulus, thermal stimulus or radiation stimulus to monitor an industrial process. Hsiung also describes a data logger (paragraphs 381 and 382 of the published application) that may be used to log alarm signals. However, nowhere does Hsiung specifically describe (or suggest) a portable single unit that may be attached to an object as set forth in these claims. The claimed portable single unit permits the unit to be subjected to the same environmental parameters (at the same levels) as the object since the unit is attached to the object. Hsiung does not describe any element that can achieve this result.

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Furthermore, Hsiung does not describe a portable single unit, that may be attached to an object as the object moves through the process, that further comprises a sensor for detecting said parameter and converting to a sensor output, a data logger coupled to said sensor for receiving and logging said sensor output, and a communication module for communicating said sensor output. Hsiung does describe each of these elements at different locations in a facilities monitoring system, but does not describe the claimed portable single unit that has all of these elements in a single unit that may be attached to an object. Therefore, Claims 76 and 92 are allowable over Hsiung. Furthermore, Claims 77- 91, 93-4 and 97-100 are also allowable over Hsiung for at least the same reasons as the independent claims.

New Claims 97-100

New Claims 97-100 are directed to a piece of base equipment that reads the logged sensor data from the portable single unit when the portable single unit passes the piece of base equipment at some predetermined point during the process. Nothing in Hsiung discloses or suggests this feature and it is allowable over Hsiung.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 76 – 94 and 97 – 100 are allowable over the prior art cited by the Examiner and early allowance of these claims and the application is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to call Applicant's attorney at the number below in order to speed the prosecution of this application.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Deposit Account No. 07-1896.

Respectfully submitted,

GRAY CARY WARE & FREIDENRICH LLP

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By



Timothy W. Lohse
Reg. No. 35,255
Attorney for Applicant

GRAY CARY WARE & FREIDENRICH
2000 University Avenue
East Palo Alto, CA 94303
Telephone: (650) 833-2055